

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please examine claims 1-13 attached to the International Preliminary Report on Patentability dated January 13, 2006.

The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

1. (original) Tool for an ultrasonic welding device in the form of a sonotrode (22), which transfers ultrasonic oscillations with at least one working surface (28, 30) for welding metal with ultrasonic oscillations running in the direction of the sonotrode's longitudinal axis, whereby the sonotrode or sonotrode head (26) exhibits a front surface (32), which runs perpendicular or essentially perpendicular to at least one working surface, thus characterized, that, for reducing deflection of at least one working surface (28, 30) perpendicular to the sonotrode's longitudinal axis (40), the front surface (32) of the sonotrode (22), sonotrode head (26) or backside of the sonotrode exhibit at least one reinforcement (34, 36, 38).

Claim 2 (canceled).

3. (currently amended) Tool according to Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~, characterized in that the reinforcement (34, 36, 38) is a rib.

4. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the reinforcement (36) exhibits triangle geometry in a section of the sonotrode's longitudinal axis.

5. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the reinforcement (36, 38) protrudes from the peripheral edge of the front surface (32), of the working surface (28, 30), respectively, of the sonotrode (22) starting in the direction of the sonotrode's longitudinal axis (40) incrementally over

the front surface (32).

6. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the reinforcement (36, 38), in particular, runs perpendicular to the working surface (28, 30).

7. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the reinforcement (36, 38) is trained in a linear manner.

8. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the reinforcement (36, 38) projects from the entire, or essentially entire, front surface (32).

9. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the reinforcement (36, 38) is trained symmetrically to a symmetry plane, in which the sonotrode's longitudinal axis (40) runs.

10. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the reinforcement (38) is trained in a beaded manner, as a beam in a linear manner, respectively.

11. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the sonotrode (22) is reinforced in such a way that, with ultrasonic excitation, deflection a_z of the sonotrode, acts in the direction of its longitudinal axis (40) by deflecting a_y perpendicular to the working surface (28, 30), as $3 \leq a_z / a_y \leq 20$.

12. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the maximal extension d of the reinforcement (36, 38), over the front surface (32) is $3 \text{ mm} \leq d \leq 25 \text{ mm}$, preferably $5 \text{ mm} \leq d \leq 15 \text{ mm}$.

13. (currently amended) Tool according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the extension d of the reinforcement (36, 38), over the front surface (32), is maximally 10 mm.